

The Trustees of Reservations

Conserving the
Massachusetts Landscape
Since 1891

SPECIAL PLACES

Volume 7, No. 1 ⚒ Winter 1999

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
*For Members and Donors of
The Trustees of Reservations*



Cloaked in the quiet of winter, Castle Hill will reawaken this spring with a flurry of historic preservation projects.

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Excitement Surrounds Castle Hill's 50th Anniversary with The Trustees

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Florence H. Crane's bequest of Castle Hill to The Trustees of Reservations. The occasion couldn't be more worthy of celebration, as we embark on a series of major historic preservation projects and applaud Castle Hill's recent designation as a National Historic Landmark, recognizing its historic significance to the American Country Place Era (1880-1940).

Castle Hill, with its 165 acres of natural and designed landscapes, 59-room Great House, and over 20 structures and buildings, is the centerpiece of The Crane Estate in Ipswich and Essex. The Crane Estate also includes some 2,000 acres of protected open space, including Crane Beach and the Crane Wildlife Refuge. Together, these three distinct landscapes, first united by the Crane family (1910-1949) and now under the care of The Trustees of Reservations, capture the essence of this grand period in American history.

Boston University Professor, Keith Morgan, a well-known educator in the fields of architectural history, art history, and landscape architecture, is just one of many individuals responsible for attracting widespread recognition for Castle Hill. "What makes the site so significant today is the continued existence of nearly every element of its physical plant which evolved over several generations," he explains. "In many ways, the house, gardens, service and farm buildings provide the evidence of man's use and reshaping of the larger landscape

which was so central to the preservation philosophy of Charles Eliot in establishing The Trustees of Reservations."

This recognition—and a major study by landscape historian Lucinda Brockway—catalyzed Trustees staff and some 30 volunteers to develop a Master Plan for Castle Hill addressing preservation, interpretation, outreach, volunteer, and financial needs. The hard work of this ad hoc group and, subsequently, the Crane Estate Committee, a group of eleven local volunteers, will culminate this year in the completion of two major historic preservation projects. Committee Chair George Mathey echoes the Committee's excitement over what the year ahead will bring. "We are thrilled to be an integral part of the efforts to restore and protect the natural and man-made features of Castle Hill. Our goals are appropriately based on adaptive reuse in keeping with Castle Hill's unique sense of place."

The first project to be tackled will be the conversion of the c. 1840 Brown Cottage at the base of Castle Hill. It was transformed at the turn of the century from an Italianate farmhouse into a shingle-style cottage. The Brown Cottage is being renovated as a bed and breakfast with eleven bedrooms and private bathrooms and will be opened in the year 2000 as *The Inn at Castle Hill*. Guests will enjoy gracious rooms with sweeping views of the salt marsh and ocean beyond. The adjacent Tavern is also being renovated

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Thoughts from the Executive Director...



Some of you will remember the lead article in our Spring 1989 issue of Special Places, which announced our campaign to protect a certain 101-acre parcel of land on Martha's Vineyard. Today, almost exactly a decade later, we can report our first solid progress on this project!

Just before the New Year, Richard and Barbara Campbell of Cohasset donated to The Trustees of Reservations five parcels totaling

less than 1/5 of an acre. A long wait for such a little piece of land, you say. Yes, but though the physical dimension of the property is small, the gift is extremely generous, and the contribution to conservation enormous.

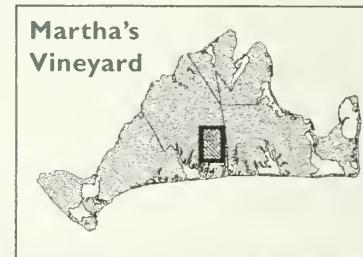
The Campbell's donation comprises a handful of the over 2,300 postage stamp parcels that make up the so-called "Medicine Lots" subdivision, located in the Thumb Cove Frost Bottom just north of our Long Point Wildlife Refuge. Around the turn of the century, these plots (each 1,500 square-feet) were offered as sales premiums to customers of Edgar Russell, a purveyor of "Flint Remedy" patent medicine.

Careful research, quietly carried out by our Land Conservation Center, has confirmed that, though many have tried, no one has been able to assemble or get clear title to more than a few of the lots. Nevertheless, a 101-acre parcel of open land on Martha's Vineyard is rare and, therefore, a potential target for developers. Thanks to the Campbells, The Trustees can now use its new legal standing as a rightful owner of five of these "medicine lots," together with deeded access to any of the subdivision's 23 "paper" streets, to discourage development and pursue permanent conservation of the entire frost bottom.

Conserving this property is very important and has been well worth the wait. Not only does it abut Long Point and

secure a wildlife corridor connecting the Refuge with the State Forest, but it also comprises a globally rare habitat of critical value in its own right. Ongoing research conducted by Lloyd Raleigh, our Islands Regional Ecologist, has revealed that at least eight state-listed species rely on the rare combination of climate and vegetation found only in frost bottoms. As Thumb Cove is one of only five remaining, intact frost bottoms on Martha's Vineyard, it is a top priority for biodiversity protection.

Nearly 100 years after Mr. Russell offered his first "medicine lot," The Trustees, with patience and perseverance, is dispensing its own prescription for this vital piece of the Commonwealth's natural heritage.



Frederic Winthrop

Frederic Winthrop
Executive Director

**"Medicine Lots" Subdivision
(on paper, but never developed).**



The Trustees of Reservations

*Conserving the
Massachusetts Landscape
Since 1891*

We invite your articles, photographs, comments, and suggestions. Please send them to:

Special Places
Headquarters • Long Hill
572 Essex Street
Beverly, MA 01915-1530
Tel 978/921-1944
Fax 978/921-1948
Email cdept@ttor.org

Founded in 1891, The Trustees of Reservations is a member-supported nonprofit conservation organization which preserves, for public use and enjoyment, properties of exceptional scenic, historic, and ecological value in Massachusetts and works to protect special places across the state. Today, The Trustees owns, manages, and interprets 81 reservations totaling over 21,300 acres of land, and protects more than 11,700 acres through the use of conservation restrictions on 172 parcels of privately held land. The Trustees of Reservations is not an agency of state government. We rely for support entirely upon membership dues, contributions, grants, reservation receipts, special events, and endowments.

For information about becoming a member or to request a change of address, please contact the Membership Office at 978/524-1858, write to us at 572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530, or email us at ttormemb@ttor.org.

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Castle Hill's 50th Anniversary...

continued from front cover

in conjunction with the B&B to enhance guest services. The firm of Carpenter and MacNeill of Beverly Farms has been hired to undertake this important work, which began in November 1998. This project has been made possible in part through the generosity of the Crane family and Trustees members.



The Brown Cottage gets a new roof in preparation for its opening as The Inn at Castle Hill.

A second preservation project will be tackled in 1999 thanks to the support of Trustees members, a generous grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission (its largest ever), and the expert work of Jean Carroon Architects, Inc. of Boston. The Italian-style Casino (meaning "little house"), situated

below the Great House and bisecting the Grand Allee (see cover photo), will be restored. The first phase of work began last July and focuses on its two buildings, the Bachelors' Quarters and the Ballroom. The final phase of work—currently being

researched—will likely involve restoring The Casino's retaining wall, staircases, and terrace. One possible adaptive reuse for The Casino now being explored is that of a self-catering vacation retreat for families and small groups of up to eight people.

Other work planned for 1999 includes a traffic and circulation study, a feasibility study for a visitor center in the Barn Complex, and an expanded program of lectures and tours. The year ahead promises to be an extraordinary one—for us and our visitors. Come see our work in progress and share our excitement! ☺

Castle Hill to Celebrate 50th Anniversary with The Trustees of Reservations

To celebrate Castle Hill's recent designation as a *National Historic Landmark* and its 50th anniversary as a property of The Trustees of Reservations, we are planning a Grand Ball on Friday evening, July 2, 1999.

Our special guests will celebrate 50 years in a style befitting the traditions of Castle Hill. This grand gala evening in The Great House promises to be a magical experience filled with warm ocean breezes.

**Organized by the Castle Hill 50th Anniversary Committee.
Look for details in the next issue of Special Places.**

LAND CONSERVATION

Mountain Meadow Opens in May!

In the far northwest corner of Berkshire County, near Williamstown's border with Vermont, 95 acres of forest, fields, and wetlands have been protected by botanist and naturalist, Pamela

Weatherbee, recently honored as The Trustees' 1998 Conservationist of the Year. Late last year, she generously donated this special property to The Trustees to become our 81st reservation. Called Mountain Meadow Preserve, this landscape will be conserved and managed in perpetuity as a natural refuge where wildflowers will continue to flourish in abundance in its reclaimed fields, and people can enjoy passive recreation and nature study, namely bird watching and field botany. From these fields, as well as a woodland path which leads to the crest of a small hill, visitors can take in spectacular views of Mount Greylock and the Taconic Range. Superintendent Andy Bernardy will open Mountain Meadow Preserve to the public in May.



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DIRECTIONS: From intersection of Routes 2 and 7 at Field Park in Williamstown, take Route 7 north for 1.7 miles. Turn right onto Mason Street.

A small parking area is located at the end of this dead end road. For information, call 413/298-3239. ☺



Needed: Conservation Buyer

From time to time, we use *Special Places* to advertise the sale of property which needs the ongoing care of a conservation-minded private owner. One such property, in Newbury near the Parker River and Old Town Hill, is a virtually untouched c.1790 country federal house with 9+ rooms and its original eight fireplaces, mantles, mouldings, staircases, and Indian shutters. The house needs extensive modernization and sensitive restoration. The property includes an early farm barn, carriage barn, and 6.5 acres including a five-acre field under a Trustees-held CR. Proceeds from the sale will fund a charitable remainder trust that will eventually support our conservation work at Old Town Hill. List price: \$350,000. **For more information, call Joanie Purinton at River Valley Real Estate, 978/462-6898.** ☺



SAVE THE DATE! 1999 Massachusetts Land Trust Conference

March 20, 1999

Tower Hill Botanic Garden • Boylston, MA

A day of workshops, seminars and discussion for land trust board members, staff, and interested volunteers.

For registration information, call Ginny Slack at 978/524-1863 or email her at landcons@ttr.org.

Year End Land Conservation Wrap-Up

Acquisitions:

Fitch Property, Mashpee River Reservation, Mashpee: Having placed his 16-acre in-holding into a charitable remainder trust that will one day support our reservations in Mashpee, Dr. Edward Fitch sold this property to The Trustees' affiliate, the Massachusetts Land Conservation Trust, which resold two-thirds to the Town of Mashpee as conservation land and transferred one-third to The Trustees to expand the Mashpee River Reservation. The Town's purchase was assisted by grants from Cape Cod Pathways and the state's municipal Self-Help Program.

Lohmann Property, Coskata-Coatue Wildlife Refuge, Nantucket: Thanks to our Nantucket supporters, together with Christoph and Pamela Lohmann and their children, Rebecca and Jan, The Trustees purchased the final one-quarter interest in their 129-acre property at Great Point, which includes beach, dunes, and shoreline along Coskata Pond.

Turkey Hill, Cohasset and Hingham: Four years ahead of schedule, Joseph Saponaro donated his remaining interest in his 5-acre parcel on Turkey Hill. Two other parcels on Turkey Hill were purchased in 1997 with funds from the towns of Cohasset and Hingham, two local land trusts, the state's Open Space Self-Help Program, and over 300 donors. All of Turkey Hill is now managed as one conservation area by The Trustees.

Ward Reservation, Andover: The donation of one-half acre of critical land in Andover from the Business Park Realty Trust has connected a once-isolated parcel of the Ward Reservation to the whole property, ensuring the protection of its scenic forest along Route 125.

Campbell Property, Thumb Cove Frost Bottom, West Tisbury: Richard and Barbara Campbell donated a critically important property in the center of the Thumb Cove Frost Bottom, a globally rare habitat which supports eight state listed rare species. While small—about 1/5-acre—we believe this parcel gives us the legal standing to discourage development of the entire Thumb Cove Frost Bottom, thereby protecting 100 acres as an important wildlife corridor between Long Point Wildlife Refuge and the Martha's Vineyard State Forest. *See page 2 for full story.*

Conservation Restrictions (CR):

Hunnewell Estate, Wellesley: Walter Hunnewell and his family donated a CR on the remaining unprotected 24.9 acres of their property in Wellesley, including the striking greensward visible from Washington Street. This marks the 11th CR donated by the extended Hunnewell family, protecting over 140 acres between Lake Waban and the Charles River. Three earlier CRs donated by Mr. Hunnewell, his mother, and his family protect the unique 'Pinetum' and Lake Waban shoreline, including America's first topiary garden.

Sherburne Property, Tyngsborough: One of Bernice Sherburne's fondest wishes was that the woods, field, and stream adjacent to the family house be protected for wildlife habitat, education, and recreation. Thanks to the generosity of her seven children, who donated a CR to The Trustees and the land itself to the Town of Tyngsborough, these 79 acres will be managed as a conservation area.

Turkeybush Foundation Property, Monterey: Over 2,200 acres in New Marlborough, Monterey, and Sandisfield comprise the largest block of contiguous private land protected by Trustees-held CRs. The Turkeybush Foundation and its benefactors, Lewis and Joyce Scheffey, have generously donated a CR on 74 adjacent acres in Monterey, including upland forest, meadow, stream, and ravine (with an old mill site). Like other CRs in this area, we will co-hold this one with a local partner, the Monterey Preservation Land Trust.



Strawberry Hill Farm, Dover

Strawberry Hill Farm, Dover: The Trustees was given a CR on the picturesque, 23-acre Strawberry Hill Farm in Dover along town-designated scenic roads. The property lies between two large expanses of open space, Noanet Woodlands and the Hale Reservation, and contains a c.1735 historic farmstead which was the childhood home of former Governor Frank Sargent.

Milliken Property, Carlisle: Arthur and Elizabeth Milliken generously gave a CR on a strategically located 4-acre parcel of woodland in Carlisle that protects the northwestern gateway into Estabrook Woods and eliminates an additional house lot along the northern border of Harvard University's forest.

Whelan Property, North River, Marshfield: Gail Whelan donated a CR on her scenic 10-acre property on Union Street in Marshfield. This CR will help protect Two Mile Reservation which Mrs. Whelan donated to The Trustees in 1993. The Trustees now holds three CRs on the North River, protecting 177 acres.

Mineway Brook, Sudbury: The Sudbury Valley Trustees (SVT) donated a CR on a 41-acre property located on the Mineway Brook in Sudbury, a gift of Austin and Harriet Ashley to SVT in 1997. The property includes 1,100 feet of frontage on the Mineway Brook, a tributary of the Sudbury River, as well as several vernal ponds in which the state-listed blue-spotted salamander breeds.

Massachusetts Land Conservation Trust (MLCT):

Half Moon Meadow, Tyngsborough: The Vincent D. McCabe Realty Trust made a gift of 12.7 acres to the MLCT, bringing to 85 acres the block of protected land near Half Moon Meadow in Tyngsborough. Depending upon our success with adjacent landowners and a feasibility assessment, this property may become a new Trustees reservation; otherwise, it will be conveyed to the Town of Tyngsborough as conservation land.

Conservation Count!

		Acreage Protected
Land Owned:	81 Reservations	21,301
Land Under CR:	172 Parcels	11,717
		33,018

(As of 12/31/98)

C A L E N D A R

A Listing of Updated and Newly Scheduled Spring Events

C E N T R A L R E G I O N

SAT, MARCH 6 – 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Zen and the Art of Apple Tree Restoration

Holbrook Property, Rutland 978/840-4446

A hands-on pruning workshop for restoring old apple trees. After a morning of pruning demonstrations, participants will team up and go to work restoring trees in an old orchard. Prunings will be gathered and burned, so there will be coals to cook over. Bring hotdogs, marshmallows, and the like! Dress warmly, bring work gloves, hand pruners, lopping shears, pruning saw, and pole pruners if possible. No chain saws please. Call Debby Werling at the number listed above to pre-register by February 26. Members: \$10. Non-members: \$15. Seniors: 25% discount.

SAT, APRIL 3 – 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Waterfalls, Weasels, and Widgets!

Doane's Falls, Spirit Falls, Royalston Falls,

Royalston 978/840-4446

Enjoy a day of hiking and viewing three of Worcester County's most spectacular waterfalls while learning some natural, cultural, and industrial history of these sites. Dress for moderate to strenuous hiking over rugged terrain. Pack a lunch to eat atop Jacobs Hill. Call Debby Werling at the number listed above to pre-register by March 26. Members: \$5. Non-members: \$8. Seniors: 25% discount.

SAT, APRIL 10 – 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.

Spring Cleaning at The Old Manse

The Old Manse, Concord 978/369-3909

Help us spruce up the grounds in preparation for Patriot's Day! Rake lawns, clean out flower beds, pick up fallen branches, and help with other spring clean-up tasks. Please bring work gloves, tools (hand pruners, rakes, trowels), and a lunch. Call Laurie Butters at the number listed above to pre-register by April 3.



FRI, APRIL 16 through MON, APRIL 19

Old Manse Season Opening & Patriot's Day Celebration

The Old Manse, Concord 978/369-3909

The Old Manse opens for the season on Friday, April 16. On Patriot's Day, Sunday, April 19, commemorate the battle of the Old North Bridge with activities held on the grounds beginning at 7:30 A.M. Special house tours run from 8 A.M. to 9:30 A.M. Items from the Museum Shop and refreshments will be available for purchase. During the season, The Old Manse is open for tours Monday through Saturday, 10 A.M. to 5 P.M. Sundays and holidays NOON to 5 P.M. Members: FREE. Non-members: adult \$5.50, child \$3.50, senior/student \$4.

SUN, APRIL 25 – 1 P.M. to 4 P.M.

Peaked Mountain Perambulation: Part I

Peaked Mountain, Monson 978/840-4446

Join us for a hike around Peaked Mountain, beginning with a loop around Lunden/Miller Pond and proceeding to Peaked's summit, where we will be rewarded with spectacular views of the surrounding countryside. Meet at the parking area on Butler Road. FREE to all.

SUN, MAY 9 – 2 P.M. to 4 P.M.

Peaked Mountain Perambulation: Part II

Peaked Mountain, Monson 978/840-4446

Join us for a second hike at Peaked Mountain, when discussion will focus on the property's natural and cultural history. Meet at the parking area on Butler Road. FREE to all.

SUN, MAY 9 – 1 P.M. to 4 P.M.

Mother's Day Celebration at The Old Manse

The Old Manse, Concord 978/369-3909

Treat your mother to an afternoon at The Old Manse and enjoy a unique tour highlighting the mothers who lived there. Every mother will receive a surprise gift. Admission: \$17.50 per family (up to five). House tours on the hour.

SAT, MAY 22 – 10 A.M. to 2 (or 3) P.M.

Take a Walk on the Wild Side

Brooks Woodland Preserve, Petersham 978/840-4446

Naturalist Bob Clark will lead a spring wildflower walk through this 518-acre preserve which is being managed to recreate a *primeval forest*. Participants will learn about spring's first colorful vanguards and other woodland wildlife. Meet at the entrance off East Street for an easy to moderate hike. Bring your own lunch—we'll provide a picnic spot on top of Tumble Down Hill. Call Debby Werling at the number listed above to pre-register by May 15. Members: \$5. Non-members: \$8. Children 6-12: \$3.

SAT, MAY 22 – 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Basking in the Warmth of a Butterfly Meadow

Rock House Reservation, West Brookfield 978/840-4446

Help us expand our new Butterfly Meadow by planting shrubs and perennials that attract and benefit our fluttering friends. Please bring garden spades, trowels, and rakes. *Plant donations gratefully accepted!* Wear sturdy work clothes and gloves. Call Tim Silva at the number listed above to pre-register by May 15. FREE to all.

SUN, MAY 23 – 2 P.M. to 4 P.M.

Peaked Mountain Perambulation: Part III

Peaked Mountain, Monson 978/840-4446

Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary naturalist, Leslie Duthie, will lead a hike to the Mountain's summit while sharing information about the area's spring wildflowers. Meet at the parking area on Butler Road. Call Debby Werling at the number listed above to pre-register by May 15. FREE to all.

I S L A N D S R E G I O N

Fees for all interpretive walks listed below are as follows.

Members: adult \$3, child (under 15) \$1. **Non-members:** adult \$6, child \$2. Please call the Islands Regional Office at 508/693-7662 for reservations and directions.

SUN, MARCH 21 – 1 P.M. to 3 P.M.

Long Point Waterfowl Walk

Long Point Wildlife Refuge, West Tisbury, Martha's Vineyard

Look for wintering ducks and geese on a walk through wooded trails along Long Cove Pond and Tisbury Great Pond. Meet at the Long Point winter parking lot via Deep Bottom Road entrance.

SUN, APRIL 18 – 1 P.M. to 3 P.M.

Wasque Shorebirds Walk

Wasque, Chappaquiddick Island, Martha's Vineyard

Celebrate the beginning of the shorebird migration season. Look for piping plovers and other early arrivals on a walk along the beach and Katama Bay. Be prepared for a windy walk. Meet at Wasque Bathing Beach parking lot.

SUN, MAY 16 – 1 P.M. to 3 P.M.

Menemsha Hills Spring Walk

Menemsha Hills, Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard

Look for signs of spring at Menemsha Hills as you explore the rolling hills of this up-island property. Listen for birds, watch for flowers in bloom, and smell the fragrance of spring. Meet at Menemsha Hills parking area off North Road.

Columbus Day weekend on Sundays 1 P.M. - 5 P.M. (and Wednesdays 2 P.M. - 4 P.M. June, July, August) or by appointment. Members: FREE. Non-members: adult \$4, child (under 16) free. Gardens open daily 8 A.M. to sunset - FREE admission to gardens.

SUN, MAY 9 – Noon to 4 P.M.

(*Raindate: Thursday, May 13 – 5 P.M. to 8 P.M.*)

Croquet Tournament at The Great House

Castle Hill, The Crane Estate, Ipswich 978/356-4351

An official croquet club will guide beginners through this amateur croquet competition for ages 12 and up. If you like, dress in period clothes just like former guests of the Cranes! Members: adult \$3. Non-members: adult \$5. Tickets available only at the gate.

SAT, MAY 15 – 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

The Stevens-Coolidge Place Annual Plant Sale

The Stevens-Coolidge Place, North Andover 978/682-3580

Perennials, old roses, and unusual annuals will be for sale at this popular plant sale. Enjoy the garden at its peak. The house will be open with floral arrangements provided by the North Andover Garden Club. FREE to all.

WED, MAY 26 and THURS, MAY 27 – 2 P.M. and 4 P.M.

Great House Teas

Castle Hill, The Crane Estate, Ipswich 978/356-4351

Experience the luxuries of a bygone era with tea at The Great House—delicious tea sandwiches, sumptuous scones, and other tasty treats. A guided house tour one hour prior to seating is included. Advance ticket purchase is required; seating is limited. Additional teas will be held throughout the summer. Please call Castle Hill for prices and to purchase tickets.

SUN, MAY 30 – 4:30 A.M. (Really!) to 9 A.M.

Flyfishing at Crane Beach

Crane Beach, The Crane Estate, Ipswich 978/356-4351

Get the inside scoop from Trustees staff on some of the best fishing holes in the area. Participants should provide their own fishing equipment. Members: \$7.50 per car. Non-members: \$15 per car. Members at the supporting level (or above): FREE. No reservations required. Please pay at beach gate.

NORTHEAST REGION

SUN, MARCH 7 – 1 P.M.

Lecture: European Influence on The Crane Estate

Castle Hill, The Crane Estate, Ipswich 978/356-4351

Learn how European architecture and landscape design influenced the design of The Crane Estate. Members: FREE. Non-members: \$5 per car. Tickets available only at the gate.

SUN, APRIL 11 – 1 P.M. to 4 P.M.

Kite Flying at Crane Beach

Crane Beach, The Crane Estate, Ipswich 978/356-4351

Help fill the skies above Crane Beach with brightly colored kites! Participants should provide their own kites. Members: \$2.50 per car. Non-members: \$5 per car. Members at supporting level (or above): FREE. Tickets available only at the beach gate.



SUN, APRIL 25 – 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Spring Tour of The Great House at Castle Hill

Castle Hill, The Crane Estate, Ipswich 978/356-4351

Tour the 59-room Stuart-style mansion designed by architect David Adler featuring 17th-century wood carvings by Grinling Gibbons and luxurious bathrooms with Italian marble and sterling silver fixtures manufactured by the Crane Company. Members: FREE. Non-members: adult \$7, child and senior \$5. Tickets available only at the gate. Tours on the hour.

BEGINNING IN MAY

Long Hill Lecture and Workshop Series

Long Hill, Beverly 978/921-1944

Register early for these popular lectures and workshops on many gardening subjects. The first lecture on May 18 will feature William Brumback of the New England Wildflower Society discussing the issues of native plants—invasive and exotic—and their introduction by commercial collections. Please call Linda McAskill for a brochure and for more information.

SUN, MAY 9 – 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

11th Annual Long Hill Rare Plant Sale and Auction

Long Hill, Beverly 978/921-1944

Join us for our annual Mother's Day plant sale featuring unusual trees, shrubs, and perennials! A real treat for Mom! Admission is FREE to all.



SUN, MAY 9 – 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

The Stevens-Coolidge Place Opens for the Season

The Stevens-Coolidge Place, North Andover 978/682-3580

House opens for guided tours Mother's Day through

SOUTHEAST REGION

SAT, APRIL 17 – 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Charles River Canoe/Kayak Trip

Rocky Narrows, Sherborn 508/359-7815

Arrive by canoe and visit Rocky Narrows for a guided hike and picnic lunch. Bring your canoe or kayak, life jackets (*required*), warm clothes, and a picnic lunch. Limited to 10 canoes. Some canoes are available for rental. Meet at Route 27 bridge across the Charles River in Medfield. Pre-register by calling Bob Costello at the number listed above. Members are encouraged to bring guests! FREE to all.

SAT, APRIL 24 and MAY 8 – 7 A.M.

World's End Early Morning Bird Walks

World's End, Hingham 781/821-2977

Join avid birder Kevin Godfrey as he leads these bird walks to find and identify returning migratory birds. Beginners and experts welcome. A wonderful way and time of day to explore World's End! Meet at the Ranger Station. Members: FREE. Non-members: \$4.

WESTERN REGION

SAT, MARCH 6 – 9:30 A.M. (8:30 A.M. Registration)

Notchview Classic Ski Race

Notchview, Windsor 413/684-0148

This is the 12th annual *Bread and Jam* race, a 10km classical style ski race, which is scheduled to be the final race of the *Western Massachusetts Cross-Country Ski Areas Ski Chase Race* series. Home baked goods as prizes. Please call for further information.

SAT, APRIL 17 – 9 A.M. to 1 P.M.

Chapelbrook Work Day with AMC

Chapelbrook, Ashfield 413/684-0148

A great way to work out the winter kinks and loosen up for the rock-climbing season. We'll be carrying woodchips up the sides of ledges with the Appalachian Mountain Club, so come prepared for a fun and furious workout. Date subject to change. Please call.

SPRINGTIME AT THE COBBLE

The following events take place at Bartholomew's Cobble in Sheffield. Please call 413/229-8600 for further information and pre-registration.

SUNDAYS, APRIL through SEPTEMBER – 7:30 A.M.

The Birds of Southern Berkshire County

Beginners and experts are invited for a look at the migratory birds of Southwestern Massachusetts and their varied habitats. Questions answered about optics, field guides, bird ecology, and anything else that helps you enjoy this fascinating perspective on the natural world. Members: FREE. Non-members: adult \$4, child (6-12) \$1.

SATURDAYS, APRIL 3 and APRIL 17 – 6 P.M. to 8 P.M.

Sounds of a Spring Evening

Learn what is making those strange noises and why. Dress warmly. Please call to pre-register. Group size is limited to guarantee a quality experience. Members: adult \$4, child (6-12) \$1. Non-members: adult \$6, child \$2.

SAT, APRIL 10 – 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Volunteer Work Day

Help get the Cobble ready for the upcoming season! Bring work gloves and hand tools. Several big projects are lined up, including a 100-ft. section of boardwalk that needs to be removed and a new trail cut in its place. Refreshments will be provided.

SAT, APRIL 17 – Noon to 2 P.M.

Spring Discovery Day

Welcome spring! Explore the wonders of spring—from vernal pools to birds, wildflowers, and everything in-between. Members: adult \$4, child (6-12) \$1. Non-members: adult \$6, child \$2.

SAT, APRIL 24 – 2 P.M. to 4 P.M.

Spring Wildflowers at Bartholomew's Cobble

It's time for the Cobble's famous ephemeral wildflower show. Witness the Cobble's wildflowers on a walk around the Ledges Trail. Members: adult \$4, child (6-12) \$1. Non-members: adult \$6, child \$2.

Coming this Fall... (Yip! We're looking ahead!)

OCT 22 through OCT 26, 1999

Following the Birds South: An Exploration of the Mid-Atlantic Coast

For details and itinerary, call Western Regional Ecologist Don Reid at 413/229-8600 or write to Don at P.O. Box 128, Ashley Falls, MA 01222.

NOTeworthy News & Shorts of All Sorts



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During their annual Fall Field Trip last October, Corporate Trustees and donors visited the South Shore and hiked Whitney and Thayer Woods, canoeoed the North River near the Norris Reservation, and walked World's End (left).

The Trustees Welcomes Two New Staff Members



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- Lisa Anderson, Historic Site Administrator, Naumkeag, The Mission House, and The Colonel John Ashley House (left)

- Tricia Schott, Events Manager, Long Hill and Castle Hill (right)



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Volunteer opportunity for amateur naturalist!
Our ecology department is looking for volunteers to help monitor grassland birds during early morning hours in spring and summer. Good bird ID skills are essential. For further information, call Russ Hopping at 978/524-1879 or email him at rhoppling@ttor.org. For a complete list of volunteer opportunities with The Trustees, contact Susan McGarvey at 978/524-1859 or email her at ttormemb@ttor.org.

Eastern Meadowlark, *Sturnella magna*

Naumkeag's "Afternoon Garden" to be recreated at the 1999 Philadelphia Flower Show. For over ten years, garden designer Harry Gamble has designed award-winning entries at the Philadelphia Flower Show for McNaughton's Nurseries of Cherry Hill, New Jersey (609/429-6745). The theme for this year's show—"Art of American Gardening"—inspired Gamble to choose the Afternoon Garden at Naumkeag (right), designed by the legendary Fletcher Steele. To capture the imagination and artistry of The Afternoon Garden, Gamble will recreate a reflecting pool,



© 1999 TTOR / S. LACASSE

shell fountains, and a French-style knot garden featuring 140 grape vines, 200 asian lilies, 700 sandworts, 700 Virginia creepers, and 2,000 annuals! The 1999 Philadelphia Flower Shows runs March 7-14 at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia. For show information, call the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society at 215/988-8800.

Noteworthy...continued



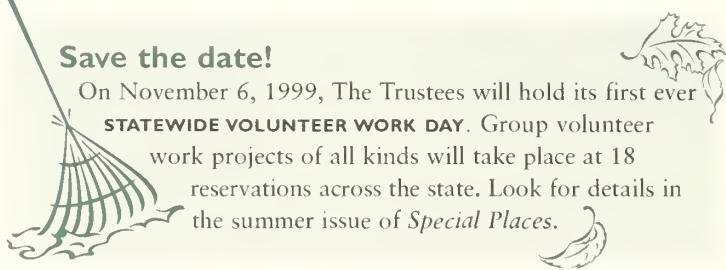
Salt Marsh Restoration Program Begins on The Crane Estate.

With \$50,000 in grants from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the Fish America Foundation and public works support from the Town of Ipswich, a major

saltmarsh restoration project was initiated on the Crane Estate. The main component of the project—the installation of a larger culvert beneath Argilla Road between the foot of Castle Hill and Crane Beach—was dedicated in November. This new culvert, engineered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), will permit daily tidal waters to more fully flood the salt marsh, leading to its natural restoration. The Trustees, NMFS, and The Massachusetts Audubon Society will jointly monitor changes to the salt marsh. *For further information, call Wayne Castonguay at 978/412-2569 or email him at neecology@ttor.org.*

Save the date!

On November 6, 1999, The Trustees will hold its first ever **STATEWIDE VOLUNTEER WORK DAY**. Group volunteer work projects of all kinds will take place at 18 reservations across the state. Look for details in the summer issue of *Special Places*.



This winter, a new administrative building was introduced onto the site of the former Shay Shed at The Old Manse. Built between 1850 and 1881, the Shay Shed originally served as an open shed for a horse-drawn carriage. The new building will be used for year-round office and storage space for staff and volunteers.



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Studying the native flora and fauna of Massachusetts.

Western Regional Ecologist Don Reid's most recent collaboration is with several bird clubs in the Berkshires to complete the final leg of important data collection on waterfowl migration through Berkshire County. This is just one example of Don's work with other organizations to better understand the health and needs of our native wildlife. Other projects, many ongoing, have included plant community studies with The Nature Conservancy; amphibian studies with US Fish & Wildlife Service, the University of Massachusetts, and the MA Division of Fish and Wildlife (MDFW); reptile studies with The Massachusetts Natural Heritage Program; bird migration and nesting census work with the American Birding Association and Cornell University; bird counts with The National Audubon Society; eagle census work with MDFW; and Eastern Bluebird monitoring with The Massachusetts Audubon Society. Our Northeast and Islands

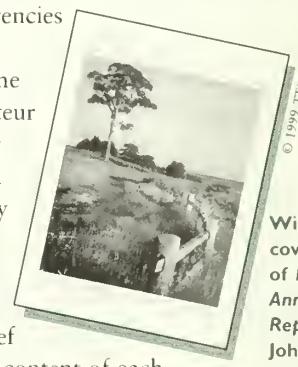
regional ecologists are also involved in several partner projects in their regions, underscoring The Trustees' continued commitment to protecting our native flora and fauna across the entire state.

Tyningham Land Trust Puts Its Trust in Us. Following its board's very difficult decision to dissolve the organization, the Tyningham Land Trust has generously given its remaining assets to The Trustees. These funds will primarily be used at Tyningham Cobble, but a small amount will go towards the creation of an endowment for Ashintully, part of the McLennan Reservation in Tyningham and Otis.



Last fall, as part of the Concord-Carlisle Community Chest's 4th annual "Day of Caring," Trustees field staff led a work day at the new Malcolm Preserve on Stearns Street in Carlisle. They were joined by a very hard-working group of over 40 local boy scouts, girl scouts, and volunteers from the Carlisle Conservation Foundation and Community Chest. The group cleared brush and spread loam and wood chips along a trail leading into historic Estabrook Woods as well as laid down crushed gravel and stone dust to finish surfacing a handicapped-accessible path. *A hearty thank you to all who helped!*

1999 Annual Report Photographic Competition. Would you like to see a photograph you took appear on the cover of our 1999 *Annual Report*? If so, consider entering the *1999 Annual Report Photographic Competition*. All you have to do is submit color slides or larger format transparencies capturing the beauty of our reservations across the state. The competition is open to all amateur photographers who are current members of The Trustees. Each participating photographer may submit up to ten images for judging. Include your name, address, daytime telephone, membership number, and a brief description of the location and content of each image. The winning photographer will be recognized in the Fall 1999 issue of *Special Places* as well as in the *1999 Annual Report*. The deadline for submission is July 15, 1999. All submitted images will be returned via first class mail by October 31, 1999, unless otherwise instructed. Good luck! *For further information or to inquire about donating your images to The Trustees' Photographic Library, contact Michael Triff at 978/412-2573 or email him at cmdept@ttor.org.*



Winning cover photo of 1998 Annual Report by John Rogers.



© 1999 R. WILCOX

Surprise Visitor! In December, prior to an evening speaking engagement, former Israeli Prime Minister, Shimon Peres (left)—and an entourage of security guards—dropped in for an unannounced visit to the Mission House in Stockbridge.

ECOLOGY

Assisting the Return of the Atlantic Salmon

Over the last two centuries, construction of dams for industry, pollution, and over-fishing have contributed to the disappearance of 'the king of the game fish' from the Connecticut River and its tributaries. Now, thanks in large part to The Connecticut River Atlantic Salmon Commission, along with assistance from cooperating organizations like The Trustees, the species is beginning to make a comeback. However, the battle to return one of our natural treasures is far from over.

Salmon are *anadromous*, which means that they return from the ocean to rivers to spawn. Offspring then migrate to the ocean to grow into adults before repeating the cycle. Most adult salmon enter and migrate up their natal (birth) river in late spring. Unlike the Pacific salmon, Atlantic salmon, despite significant hardship, do not necessarily die after spawning.

This fall, stocked salmon spawned in the east branch of the Westfield River which flows through The Trustees' Chesterfield Gorge. Clearly, the thousands of acres protected by The Trustees of Reservations in this critical watershed help to produce the clean, oxygen-rich water essential to the successful re-population of the Atlantic salmon. While it would be premature to declare that salmon have returned to viable levels in these streams, we hope that continued restocking will allow populations to become self-sustaining.

For the past three years, Don Pugh of the Conte Fish Research Center has tracked wild adult salmon in the Westfield River. 'The purpose of our research is to gain an understanding of how adult salmon will use the Westfield River for spawning. This year, 12 fish were tracked as they arrived, spawned, and returned to the ocean. We expect that, in the future, pools in Chesterfield Gorge will provide important summer habitat for returning salmon,' he explains.

You can help the Atlantic salmon re-population program by working on water quality issues in your area, acting as guardians of adult salmon as they summer in river pools, and helping as an educational program volunteer. **For more information, call the Connecticut River Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at 413/548-9138 or visit their website at www.fws.gov/r5crc.**



Volunteer Tracy Marison and John Ferire stock salmon eggs in the Westfield River in Huntington, Massachusetts.

© 1999 USFWS

MAPPING

What is GPS and How Does it Work?



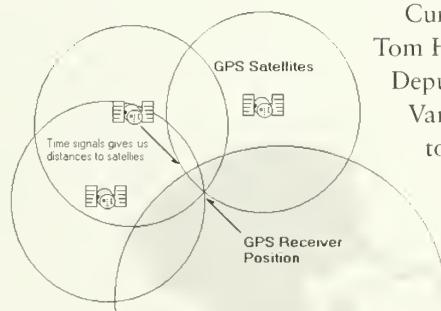
Trustees staff use GPS to map Monument Mountain in Great Barrington.

The components of GPS consist of 24 satellites in orbit around earth, a hand-held receiver used on the ground, and a personal computer-based software program. Each of the satellites continually transmits a signal containing the precise transmission time and location of the satellite in space. These signals are recorded by the hand-held receiver. Because each signal is traveling at a constant speed (the speed of light), the distance between the receiver and each satellite can be computed. By triangulating the distances between three satellites, the receiver's position on earth can be

calculated. If a fourth satellite signal is added to the equation, an even more precise position can be calculated, such as elevation. Measuring linear features, such as trails, is a little less precise.

The Trustees has been using GPS on a variety of mapping projects. Trail maps for Old Town Hill in Newbury, Noanet Woodlands in Dover, and Swift River Reservation in Petersham were created using GPS. GPS has also been used to locate the reservation boundaries of Notchview in Windsor, Rock House Reservation in West Brookfield, and The Eleanor Cabot Bradley Reservation in Canton. At Crane Beach, GPS has been used to map locations of piping plover nesting sites, and, at Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge, it was used to map average high-tide lines, dramatically illustrating shore-line changes.

Currently, two volunteers, Tom Horth and former Trustees Deputy Director, Garry VanWart, have been trained to use GPS and are assisting Trustees staff in mapping projects in both the northeast and southeast regions. So, if you see someone on a trail with



a sort of Buck Rogers backpack, it will almost certainly be Tom or Garry! Look for the positive ID: one eye on the ground and the other towards the sky! **For further information, contact GIS Specialist Vin Antil at 978/524-1875 or email him at gis@ttr.org.**

LIVING HISTORY

Memories of Powisset Farm with Edgar A. Wilcox

For over ten years, during the late 1940s and 50s, Edgar A. Wilcox worked first as Herdsman and, shortly thereafter, as Farm Manager for Miss Amelia Peabody at Powisset Farm in Dover. He managed her herds—namely Yorkshire pigs and Hereford cattle—and helped groom them for shows in Toronto, Baltimore, New York, and all parts of New England. He also oversaw major works projects on the farm, such as erecting a barn and silo, restoring an old nail mill, and installing a natural gas pipeline. Despite having her own gardener, Miss Peabody insisted that Mr. Wilcox personally plant and harvest her potato and sweet corn crops because of the remarkable results he achieved. Together, they entertained cattle breeders from England, bus loads of children from the inner city of Boston and, on one occasion, Franklin D.



Edgar Wilcox (right), Farm Manager of Powisset Farm

Roosevelt, Jr. In Mr. Wilcox's own words, "If I had had a written job description, it would have been in volumes. My job was consuming, and I loved it."

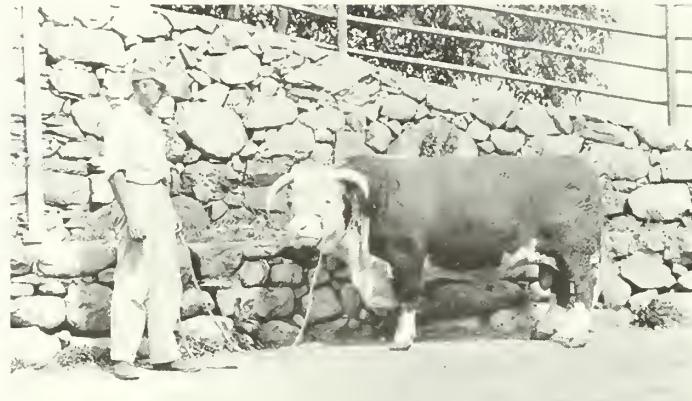
Last summer, Mr. Wilcox shared with us some of his memories of life on Powisset Farm and even a few anecdotes which offer a rare glimpse into the

life and times of Amelia Peabody and the place she cherished. Two such anecdotes follow:

"Miss Peabody traveled to Prince Edward Island, Canada to purchase a boar pig for the Yorkshire herd. The boar arrived and seemed well and content. I guess he was too content, as he did not do with the sows and gilts what he was supposed to do. This situation required me to inform Miss Peabody as discretely as I could what was not going on in the 'Pig Palace.' I was surprised when she suggested I purchase a "pint" and use it to "loosen up" Mr. Boar. This was done without any visible results. However, as time passed, it turned out that he must have done something in the dead of night, as the gilts became pregnant. The remainder

of the whiskey was put away on a shelf in a storage room and sort of forgotten. On a rainy day, I had an employee clean and rearrange the storage. This was a good employee and knew whiskey when he saw it. He finished the task for the day with a comfortable glow."

"My favorite Miss Peabody story came to pass on my first fall at Powisset. I was at Eastern State Exposition showing a Hereford heifer and some of the Yorkshire pigs.



Edgar Wilcox and Hereford bull, Powisset Farm, 1952

Miss Peabody was present with a companion on show day. She suggested that I have lunch with them at a restaurant in part of the coliseum. This suggestion was not about to be declined. I was a little on edge, as I had not dined with a 'proper' Bostonian. Miss Peabody and I had the steak lunch. The steak was as tough as an oak barrel stave. Without thinking what I was about to say, I blurted out that I wished

I could use my jack knife. Stockmen always carry a sharp knife for general use, such as castrating calves, pigs, and whatever needs to be cut. I quickly felt I had made the faux pas of the century. There was a short pause during which I was less than comfortable. Then, Miss Peabody said, 'Well, why don't you use your jack knife?' This forced my hand to use the knife with a little embarrassment. When finished, I put the knife away. Then the bomb dropped. Miss Peabody said, 'Aren't you going to let me use your knife?' Of course I passed it to her, and she used it deftly as expected. I cannot say why this little happening is forever etched in my memory."

Miss Amelia Peabody donated by bequest part of her Dover farm, Noanet Woodlands, to The Trustees in 1984.

Powisset Farm was acquired and protected in 1985. ♀

Electa Tritsch, Trustees
Maintenance Foreman
John Gilbert, Melissa
Gilbert, and Edgar
Wilcox at Noanet
Woodlands last
September.



COLLECTIONS

Sculpture in the Winter Garden

There is perhaps no better time to view sculpture in the garden than during the winter. At Field Farm in Williamstown, twelve modern sculptures adorn the grounds around this contemporary house built in 1948. Nine are part of a collection given to the Williams College Art Museum by the Bloedel family, donors of Field Farm. These sculptures are on long-



Reverse Curve by Herbert Ferber, 1967 copper

term loan to The Trustees as part of a cooperative effort to highlight the Bloedel family and their appreciation of modern art.

The latest addition to the collection is a piece entitled *Reverse Curve*, by Herbert Ferber (1906-1991), several of whose works are in the Bloedel's collection at Williams College. Made in 1967 of copper, this sculpture is an important contribution to the Abstract Expressionists with which Mark Rothko, Jackson Pollock, and Willem DeKooning



Sandy Seated in a Square by Richard McDermott Miller, 1967 bronze

are also associated. Ferber's work with this group, both artistic and philosophical, helped to define American modernism. We invite you to visit Field Farm and enjoy this special collection. **For more information, call Mark Baer at 413/298-3239 or email him at westregion@ttor.org. Information about the B&B at Field Farm Guest House is available by calling 413/458-3135.**

New Nature Center! This past fall, a garage bay in the parking area at Field Farm was converted into a small nature center. Volunteers from the Field Farm committee helped to locate and set up displays as well as mount, frame, and hang pictures which interpret the natural history of the area. Future additions include a bird feeding station, an exhibit on beavers, and a "touch table" where children can explore the diversity of textures found in nature.

THE SEMPER VIRENS SOCIETY



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A Milestone!

We've reached a major milestone! Jamie Hudson of Boston recently became the 100th member of *The Semper Virens Society*. Jamie's designation of

The Trustees as beneficiary of his life insurance policy is a generous and inventive form of a planned gift. It also works particularly well for him.

"It made good sense to use this asset," he says. "I'm 40 years old, unmarried, and have no children. By naming The Trustees as the beneficiary of the policy, these assets will go directly to The Trustees after my

lifetime. This is a great way to make a significant gift."

Jamie remembers growing up in Wilton, Connecticut, where he and his friends from high school enjoyed climbing a high hill on a neighboring dairy farm to look at the stars or take in the spectacular view. "Suddenly," he says, "everything changed. Bulldozers and big homes came in. The property and the community of Wilton were never the same again."

Jamie is a staunch believer in preserving the aesthetics of the Massachusetts landscape and the character of special communities. His wonderful gift will help The Trustees, and the work of the Land Conservation Center, achieve these goals well into the future.

You, too, may wish to make a provision in your estate plan to benefit The Trustees. For information on how to name The Trustees in your will, or on a range of other planned giving opportunities, please call Eloise Hodges, Director of Planned Giving, at 978/524-1876.

Please let us know

- I would like information on how to include The Trustees in my will or make other kinds of provisions in my estate plan.
- I would like information on making a gift that provides me or another individual with income for life.
- I have remembered The Trustees in my estate plan. In recognition of my planned gift, please make me a member of *The Semper Virens Society*, which means 'forever green'.

Mr. Mrs.
Ms. Miss

First

Middle Initial

Last

Address

City / Town

State

Zip Code

()
Telephone

Please fill out and return this form to:

Eloise Hodges, Director of Planned Giving • The Trustees of Reservations
572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530 or call 978/524-1876



Join us! This spring, The Trustees will kick-off a special membership program for those aged 21 – 45 looking for leadership, educational, social, and recreational activities with The Trustees of Reservations. A unique calendar of events is being developed.

For more information, email Ina Drouin at idrouin@ttor.org or Heather Wager at hwager@ttor.org or phone 978/524-1880.

Going Places...SPECIAL PLACES!

Lowell Holly Mashpee & Sandwich



rhododendrons as well as Mountain laurel. Wilfred Wheeler, Sr., the first chair of the Lowell Holly Committee and an enthusiastic member of the American Holly Society, continued this tradition after Lowell's death in 1942 by planting some 50 varieties of American holly known for their heavy fruiting and lustrous dark green foliage. Today, Lowell Holly is one of the northern-most study grounds for the American holly.

Lowell Holly's most intriguing features may be its two peninsular knolls (see photo above), one of which juts out into Mashpee Pond and the other Wakeby Pond. Both vantage points offer spectacular views across the water. Wide, gently sloping former carriage paths provide easy access to all points of interest. The reservation offers visitors exceptional recreational opportunities, including hiking, canoeing, picnicking, and fishing. Mashpee and Wakeby ponds are renowned for their exceptional trout, small mouthed bass, chain pickerel, and bluegill fishing.

The reservation is open year round, daily, sunrise to sunset. From Route 6, Exit 2, take route 130 south. Follow for 1.5 miles and turn left onto Cotuit Road. Continue 3.4 miles and turn right onto South Sandwich Road. A small year-round parking area is located on the right about .5 mile down the road. ☺



American Holly, *Ilex opaca*

**Please tell us about your favorite day trip to one of our 81 reservations! We'll highlight it here in Special Places. Mail to:
Editor, Special Places, Headquarters, Long Hill, 572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530 or email us at cmdept@ttor.org**

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SPECIAL PLACES

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